## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /061 W

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P 252026Z FEB 77 FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3601

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E. O. 11652: GDSD TAGS: SHUM, PINT, CI

SUBJECT: CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS LAUNCH COUNTERATTACK

REFS: (A) SANTIAGO 1471, (B) SANTIAGO 1392

1. THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC) DIRECTORATE ISSUED AN ANGRY STATEMENT ON FEBRUARY 24, CHARGING THAT THE "POLITICAL RECESS SEEMS TO ALLOW ABSOLUTE FREEDOM FROM SOME TO DENIGRATE PUBLICLY THOSE PERSONS AND GROUPS WHO DO NOT SHARE THEIR POINT OF VIEW... THIS NEW CAMPAIGN ATTACKS SOME OUTSTANDING (PARTY) FIGURES." THE STATEMENT WAS THE PARTY'S RESPONSE TO A RECENT INTERVIEW WITH FORMER US AMBASSADOR EDWARD KORRY, SHOWN ON LOCAL TELEVISION, AND A "NEW YORK TIMES"ARTICLE (REF A), BOTH ASSERTING PAYMENTS BY THE CIA TO PDC PERSONALITIES -- THE LATTER INCLUDING EDUARDO FREI -- DURING THE PERIOD 1964-70 (FREI'S ADMINISTRATION).

2. ON THE TELEVISION INTERVIEW, THE PDCERS ATTACK KORRY'S "FALSEHOODS, CONTRADICTIONS, AMBIGUITIES AND SILENCE" (A REFERENCE TO KORRY'S REFUSUAL TO IDENTIFY THE TWO FREI CABINET MINISTERS HE SAID RECEIVED CIA MONEY) AND THE INTERVIEWER'S "INTENTIONAL TWISTING OF THE QUESTIONS AND COMMENTARY." THE STATEMENT FURTHER ASSERTS THAT FREI'S ADMINISTRATION MAINTAINED AN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS POSTURE INDEPENDENT FROM THAT OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES AND LISTS SEVERAL "EXAMPLES." OF FREI POLICIES AND ACTIONS UNPALATABLE TO U.S.

3. THE PDC STATEMENT CONCLUDES THAT: "IT WOULD SEEM (THAT SOMEONE) DESIRES THAT PUBLIC OPINION BE DIVERTED AT ALL COSTS FROM MATTERS THAT GREATLY AFFECT AND CONCERN THE MAJORITY OF CHILEANS.Z

4. THE DIRECTOR FOR POLICY OF PDC RADIO BALMACEDA -- CLOSED DOWN BY THE GOC ON JANUARY 28 (REF B) -- SENT A LETTER TO THE PRESS (PUBLISHED IN EL MERCURIO FEBRUARY 24), WITH COPY TO EMBASSY, CHARGING THAT THE TELEVISED KORRY INTERVIEW WAS PARTIAL AND ONE-SIDED. THE DIRECTOR CLAIMED THAT IN AN EARLIER RADIO BALMACEDA INTERVIEW WITH KORRY, THE EX-AMEBASSADOR HAD SAID THAT "IN THE LAST 20 YEARS, HIGH OFFICIALS OF THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT -- INCLUDING THE PRESENT ONE -- HAVE ACCEPTED MONEY FROM THE US GOVERNMENT." THE DIRECTOR SOLICITED THE READER'S ASSISTANCE IN "CLARIFYING THE PARTIAL AND MALICIOUS INFORMATION DISSEMINATED BY CERTAIN MEDIA... (WHICH AIMS AT) SMEARING CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY, THE ADMINISTRATATION OF FORMER PRESIDENT FREI AND THE PDC."

**POPPER** 

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## Message Attributes

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